

our dump. Of course, they are four miles from the city but Senator Cullan doesn't care, you know it provides proper sport for the kids, and Senator Cullan and whatever. I can understand that maybe that is all that they can do in Hemingford, but I would think that there would probably be more proper things that would not be as injurious to the health of the citizens of Hemingford and other communities. When I brought this amendment up I ran into a buzz saw of rural senators who said, let the counties decide what they want to do. Let each area decide what they want to do, lets not impose our will upon the people. The only question that I would have in trying to answer that is why are we going to go ahead and adopt the bill for all cities of 5,000 or more because we say that these are very severe problems. We don't want rats running around, we don't want obnoxious smells, we don't want bacteria count. All of these things are terrible in the City of Omaha, all of these things are terrible in the City of Lincoln. They are terrible in Bellevue but they are okay in Hemingford, or they are okay in Elkhorn, Nebraska. If they are bad in Omaha Senator Cullan, they are bad in Hemingford. Even if the dump is four miles outside the city limits. I would just suggest to the body that in order to be consistant and because this body should be legitimately concerned for all citizens of the state, about proper sanitary conditions, this amendment is both meaningful and necessary. I would just also add that I don't think you will find Senator Venditte opposing this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I am the chairman of the "Save our Dump" committee of everyone west of 172nd Street. I guess, all the way to Hemingford, right Senator Cullan? The facts are these. We have been over this road many times. The facts are that a few years ago, 1973-71 BS, that is "Before Simon", we had a Senator in this body, Senator Whitney, who came out with an amendment that took the second class cities out from the authority of the Department of Environmental Control. The reason for that action was that because the Department of Environmental Control, like any other agency, like some of us Senators including myself, find that it is more productive and meaningful to go out and harass the mayor of a second class city or village about their dump than it is to concern themselves about the disposition of the twelve million gallons of raw sewage in the Missouri River by the City of Omaha daily. They find that it is more profitable and more productive and better for your ego to go out and harass the Mayor of Valley, Nebraska or Bruning or someplace else than it is to worry about the odors at the Teresa Street Plant here in Lincoln. The city can't do anything about that. The facts are that there are 535 or 40 cities and villages in the State of Nebraska. There is no way that the State of Nebraska is going to appropriate sufficient funds to provide for Department of Environmental Control personnel to go out and supervise every single solid waste disposal center in the State of Nebraska. Two years ago the committee introduced 559, a bill which would have provided for county wide disposal systems. I supported that bill, I believed that it was a good concept. The bill did not get out of committee but there are a number of counties, including my own which have adopted that principle, and are today doing a good job of taking care of their own solid waste. It is a kind of system which I believe is the answer to the problem